

NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMISSIONERS (IRELAND).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 6 July 1873.—50v.

COPY "of a LETTER, dated the 30th day of June 1873, from the Chief Secretary for Ireland to the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, and of the Commissioners' Reply."

LETTER from the Chief Secretary for Ireland to the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

Gentlemen,

30 June 1873.

THE attention of the Government has been directed to the correspondence on the subject of the managership of the Callan Schools, and to the evidence taken before the Committee which has recently inquired into the case.

The Government entertain no doubt that the Commissioners have acted throughout this controversy, not only in accordance with their own convictions, but in accordance also with a course of practice which would have been broken by the continuance of Mr. O'Keeffe as the recognised manager of the Callan Schools.

It appears that while the printed rules of the Board provide for the recognition of patrons and local managers, and for the succession, in the case of a vacancy by death, it has hitherto been considered unnecessary to provide for cases in which it may seem expedient, for any cause, to withdraw the recognition by the Commissioners of the patron or local manager; and it appears to the Government that the unfortunate division of opinion, which has occurred among the Commissioners in this case, would probably have been avoided if some definite course of proceeding, to be adopted in such cases, had been prescribed by the rules.

The Government therefore desire to suggest, for the consideration of the Commissioners, the adoption of a rule in the enclosed form, which appears to them to be entirely in accordance with the principles on which the other rules of the Board with reference to the management of National Schools are based.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Hartington.*

The Secretaries
Board of National Education in Ireland.

After Rule 9 (Management of National Schools)—

The Commissioners also reserve to themselves the power of withdrawing the recognition of a patron or local manager, if he shall fail to observe the rules of the Board, or if it shall appear to them that the educational interest of the district require it; but such recognition will not be withdrawn without an investigation into the above matters, held after due notice to the patron or local manager, and to all parties concerned.

(9001—73. B. O.—8773.)

LETTER from the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland to the
Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Office of National Education, Dublin,
8 July 1873.

My Lord,

WE have the honour to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education having this day had, at a special meeting of the Board, under consideration the rule proposed by your Lordship, a copy of which is appended, have unanimously resolved, "that the rule as proposed by your Lordship be accepted."

We have, &c.
(signed) *James Kelly,* } Secretaries.
Wm. H. Newell, }

To the Right Hon.
The Marquis of Hartington, M.P.,
Chief Secretary for Ireland,
Irish Office, London.

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NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMISSIONERS (IRELAND).

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the Chief Secretary for Ireland to the Com-
missioners of National Education in Ireland, and
of the Commissioners' Reply.

(Marquis of Hartington.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
8 July 1873.